

In addition, 355 plats from the Anne Arundel County Land Records were cleaned and pressed.

Almost all of this material was also prepared for binding.

A demonstration of the repair methods of the Hall of Records was given by Mrs. Ruth Krebs on November 10, 1941 at the Maryland Historical Society. The number of visitors from other archival institutions who come to examine our repair room has not fallen off. Among such visitors this year was Señor de Alba, Minister of Fine Arts of Colombia, and two representatives of the State Library of Tennessee.

Our lamination process was described at length in the *Annapolis Capitol*, the *Baltimore Sun*, *Popular Science* and *Life On The Chemical Newsfront*, a publication of the American Cynamid & Chemical Company. As a result of this publicity, we have been called upon frequently to explain to other institutions and individuals the details of the process.

A specially designed roller table was the only new item of equipment added to our repair facilities.

### PHOTOCOPYING

The amount of paid photocopying done at the Hall of Records during the past year decreased. This was due not to a diminished demand but to the necessity of refusing all work other than the copying of our own manuscripts. Otherwise, we should not be entitled to our priority rating as a state institution or to exemption from the new excise taxes. There is no cause to regret this loss of business. In the first place, there was never any good reason why photocopying of materials other than our own should be done for lawyers, contractors, architects and other private persons in Annapolis and at a rate less than that charged by commercial photographers. This service to Annapolitans began years ago when the Land Office purchased its first Photostat camera and it has continued to the present, long after its need has disappeared. It has always seemed to the Archivist that the Hall of Records was in effect competing on unequal terms with commercial photographers and favoring citizens of Annapolis over those of other parts of the State. This work was done at a loss to the Hall of Records, for its equipment, the time of its employees, and its supplies were provided from our own budget while all receipts were deposited in the general funds of the State. The State, of course, did